

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 remain in the application and claims 1 and 6 have been amended hereby.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by Niwa et al.

Features of the dictionary searching apparatus according to the present invention are an input unit (5 in Fig. 1) to enable a user to access a database (10 in Fig 1) from a plurality of databases (Fig. 2) including first and second dictionaries (e.g. Japanese language dictionary and English-Japanese language dictionary).

Independent claims 1 and 6 have been amended to recite these features of the present invention.

Looking at Niwa et al. we see that there is no input unit to enable a user to access a database from a plurality of databases including first and second dictionaries. Niwa et al. is merely a document retrieval-assisting method using feedback and guidance for assisting a user to retrieve a document. Niwa et al. is silent about searching first and second dictionaries such as in the presently claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1 and 6, and the claims depending therefrom,

are not anticipated by Niwa et al.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay H. Maioli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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JHM/PCF:tb